

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A catheter insertable into a blood vessel and comprising:

a deflector arrangement projecting from an external surface of a body of the catheter adjacent a front portion of the body for interacting with a flow of blood through the blood vessel, wherein the resultant of all forces acting on the deflector arrangement is directed to displace the catheter body laterally toward a region of a wall of the vessel, to minimize an amount of blood disposed between the catheter body and the vessel wall;

wherein the deflector arrangement comprises fins disposed on opposite sides of the catheter body and arranged to be displaced towards the vessel wall by the force of blood flow.

14. (Previously Presented) The catheter according to claim 13 wherein the fins are generally diametrically opposed on the catheter body.

15. (Previously Presented) The catheter according to claim 14 wherein there are two sets of diametrically opposed fins, each set comprising a plurality of fins.

16. (Previously Presented) The catheter according to claim 13 wherein each fin extends in a direction inclined obliquely relative to a longitudinal axis of the catheter, as the catheter is viewed from the side.

17. (New) The catheter according to claim 13 wherein all of the fins are oriented at an oblique angle relative to a longitudinal center axis of the catheter, and all fins are oriented to be displaced toward the same region of the wall of the vessel by the force of blood flow.

18. (New) A catheter insertable into a blood vessel and comprising:

a deflector arrangement projecting from an external surface of a body of the catheter adjacent a front portion of the body for interacting with a flow of blood through the blood vessel to displace the catheter body laterally toward a region of a wall of the vessel, to minimize an amount of blood disposed between the catheter body and the vessel wall;

wherein the deflector arrangement comprises fins disposed on opposite sides of a section of a center axis of the catheter body and arranged to be displaced towards the vessel wall by the force of blood flow, wherein the fins are fixed against movement relative to the section of the center axis.